



PSC NEWS

Missouri Public Service Commission

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PSC APPROVES WAIVER REQUEST

Jefferson City (July 25, 2003)---The Missouri Public Service Commission has approved an application filed by the City of Kennett municipal gas system (City) which sought a waiver of a pipeline safety rule related to a replacement program for unprotected steel service lines and yard lines.

According to the application, the proposed waiver requested that a customer-owned yard line be exempted from being replaced. According to the City, the customer, Emerson Electric Company, is a large manufacturing firm that has its own engineering and maintenance departments capable of maintaining their own facilities. Emerson Electric Company, according to the City, has installed cathodic protection on the 6" steel yard line going from the meter set to the building.

According to the application, the City of Kennett believes that by the City leak-surveying the line on an annual schedule, and by the City checking the cathodic protection level annually, safety would not be compromised by not replacing the 6" yard line.

In a memorandum filed on June 6, 2003, the PSC Staff stated it had reviewed the City's application and found the requested waiver acceptable. The Commission's order noted: "The Staff agreed with Kennett (City of Kennett) that the waiver will not reduce pipeline safety based upon the facts that the 6-inch steel yard line is now under cathodic protection and that Kennett will continue to annually survey the line for leaks and the proper level of cathodic protection."

After the thorough review of the evidence filed in this case, the Commission determined that the City of Kennett's request should be granted.

The Public Service Commission has jurisdiction over the City of Kennett municipal gas system when it comes to natural gas pipeline safety issues.

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